

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 OPIC-12 XMB-07 DRC-01 /180 W
----- 023647

R 070701Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3087

INFO AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1136

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN (1136 VICE 2236)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EMIN, NS, NL

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER'S VIEWS ON SURINAM

REF: A) THE HAGUE 1075 B) PARAMARIBO 82

1. DURING OUR LUNCHEON CONVERSATION FEBRUARY 28, PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT TO SURINAM, DESCRIBED NEW GOVERNMENT THERE AS VERY "LEFT WING" (THIS FROM THE LEADER OF THE DUTCH LABOR PARTY), AND BACKED BY LABOR UNIONS.

2. PRIME MINISTER SAID GOS WAS NOT PLANNING OUTRIGHT NATIONALIZATION OF BAUXITE INDUSTRY ALTHOUGH IT PLANS TO OBTAIN PARTICIPATION IN IT. APPARENTLY GOS HAD FLOATED CONCEPT THAT GON SHOULD FINANCE OVER TEN-YEAR PERIOD PAYMENTS WHICH GOS WOULD BE MAKING TO ALUMINUM COMPANIS. PRIMIN DID NOT SAY WHETHER DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PARTICIPATION HAD TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN GOS AND OPERATING COMPANIES.

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3. ON BASIS HIS VISIT, DEN UYL BELIEVES SURINAM WILL BECOME INDEPENDENT IN 1975, EARLIER THAN HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED.

BY CONTRAST, HE INDICATED INDEPENDENCE
FOR ANTILLES IS AT LEAST FIVE YEARS AWAY.

4. I TOLD PRIME MINISTER I WAS SURE US WOULD WANT
TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH GON ABOUT MODALITIES OF
SURINAM'S INDEPENDENCE (HAVING IN MIND THAT WHEN
DEN UYL'S PREDECESSOR, BIESHEUVEL, VISITED US IN JANUARY
1972, THE WHITE HOUSE HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT
TALKS BETWEEN GON AND US BE HELD PRIOR TO
SURINAMESE INDEPENDENCE). I EMPHASIZED US WISHED
TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN THIS TRANSITION
PERIOD AND IT WAS IN BEST INTEREST OF US AND GON TO
ENSURE THAT IF BAUXITE PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENT IS
BEING CONTEMPLATED, IT SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED IN SUCH
A WAY AS TO ENSURE EQUITABLE RESULT AND PRODUCE
MAXIMUM STABILITY FOR BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS
OVER LONG TERM. ACCORDINGLY, I TOLD PRIME
MINISTER I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH
HIM AGAIN IN NEAR FUTURE (BY WHICH TIME I WOULD HOPE
TO RECEIVE POLICY GUIDANCE).

5. WE RECOMMEND THAT (A) DEPT ADVISE APPROPRIATE
AMERICAN ALUMINUM INTERESTS OF REPORTED GOS PLAN TO
PARTICIPATE IN SURINAM'S BAUXITE INDUSTRY AND ASCERTAIN
WHETHER THERE HAVE BEEN ANY DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER
BETWEEN GOS AND INDUSTRY (WHICH WE WOULD APPRECIATE
BEING APPRISED OF) AND (B) EMBASSY BE PROVIDED WITH
POLICY GUIDANCE ON OVERALL QUESTION OF ASSURING
CONTINUED AMERICAN ACCESS TO SURINAM'S BAUXITE ON TERMS
WHICH SERVE THE INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED, HAVING IN
MIND THE ACCELERATED TIMING OF INDEPENDENCE FOR
SURINAM.
GOULD

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